

CEBU A militant group member is in a state of utter dread over all things Cha-cha.

Sen. Kiko Pangilinan welcomes possible alliance with Noli **NEWS /A2** • **PNP relieves** 31 cops absent in drug cases' court hearings **METRO /A20** • **Malvar, Batangas,** mayor shot dead **ACROSS /A14** • **Exports plunged** 35.2% in April **BUSINESS /B1** • **Where the city's** best chefs buy their ingredients **LIFESTYLE /C1** • **Candy Pangilinan,** The Forgiven **ENTERTAINMENT /F1** • **'Idol' runner-up** Adam Lambert comes out of the closet **WORLD /A21**

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

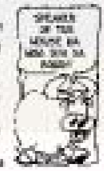
Thursday, June 11, 2009 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 181 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

Speaker of JDV's house, Gina seeks his House seat

By Yolanda Sotelo
Inquirer Northern Luzon

DAGUPAN CITY—FROM housewife to mother to civic worker to politician. Gina de Venecia, however, isn't yet ready to be called a politician though she has declared her in-

SPEAKER, A8



'Shameless abuse of power'

Cory issues strongest message vs Con-ass

By Christian V. Esguerra

IT WAS THE STRONGEST message former President Corazon Aquino has so far issued, and it was roundly applauded in the largest rally against moves to revise the Constitution in three years.

"Here we are again in the midst of the shameful abuses of the powerful that seek to destroy our sacred laws," she said in Filipino ("Nakakaharap na naman tayo sa gitna ng walang-hiyang pang-aabuso ng mga makapangyarihang nagnanais na sirain ang mga pinakapuhay sa ating mga batas.")

"Over the years, I have learned to endure pain and sadness," said the cancer-stricken People Power icon in a statement read by her grandson Kiko Dee at the rally attended by thousands in Makati City yesterday.

"But perhaps, there is nothing that causes me greater pain than to see our people betrayed again and again by

SHAMELESS, A6



As darkness descends upon the intersection of Ayala Avenue and Paseo de Roxas, the massive gathering of protesters from all walks begin to disperse into the shadows of their fears. Fears that their message had not been heard or that they had not made themselves clear or that it would be ignored by the rulers of the land. Or, worse. The people had come to protest the imminence of Charter change engendered by Resolution No. 1109 approved by the House of Representatives last week. The resolution empowers the lower chamber to assemble as a constituent assembly for the purpose of amending the Constitution. So, there's a whole lot of protesting to do. As they had come peacefully, so did they leave. But for a while there, the central business district in Makati City stood still.

Protest leader gunned down in Dumaguete

By the Inquirer Bureaus

PUBLIC INDIGNATION OVER THE constituent assembly (Con-ass) took a violent twist in Dumaguete City when unidentified men shot and killed a peasant leader shortly after he addressed a crowd at 4 p.m.

Ferraris Lorico, leader of the militant Kahugpongan Alang sa Uguma sa Gapnay'ng Mag-uuma sa Oriental Negros (Kaugmaon), was ambushed along San Jose Extension in Barangay Taclobo, said Supt. Leopoldo Cabanag, the city police chief.

Lorico, a native of Bayawan City and active Catholic lay minister, was on his way to the office of the Promotion of Church People's Response (PCPR) to meet members of human rights organizations, Kaugmaon spokesperson Julie Bagay said.

Like in Metro Manila, protest rallies

PROTEST LEADER, A6

IMF outlook: 1% decline in RP economy

By Michelle V. Remo

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY Fund (IMF) now expects the Philippine economy to post its first contraction since the Asian financial crisis more than a decade ago.

The economy went into recession in 1998.

Revising downward for the third

IMF OUTLOOK, A6

GMA picks Ermita to head Lakas-Kampi

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO IS taking a direct hand in preparing Lakas-Kampi-CMD for the 2010 elections by appointing her executive secretary as point man of the newly merged administration party.

Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr. announced that Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita would be the president of Lakas-Kampi-CMD, one of 64 interim officers handpicked by Ms Arroyo.

Lakas-CMD and Kabalikat ng Malayang Pilipino (Kampi) merged on May 28 in preparation for fielding a common slate, including a standard-bearer, for the May 2010 elections.

At a press conference, Belmonte, the party senior vice president for external affairs, said former President Fidel V. Ramos had agreed to be chair emeritus

GMA PICKS, A6

NPC, LP, NP threaten to bolt House coalition

By Leila B. Salaverria

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO'S coalition in the House of Representatives is likely to fall apart if her allies convene a constituent assembly (Con-ass) to amend the Constitution without the Senate.

Threats to bolt the House majority were made yesterday by officials of the Nationalist People's Coalition (NPC), Liberal Party (LP) and Nacionalista Party (NP) at the Ayes and Nays media forum yesterday amid a snowballing opposition to Con-ass.

NPC, LP, NP, A6



'TRAITORS' GALLERY Protesters present the mug shots of all the congressmen who, led by the House leadership, in haste and in the dead of night of June 2, crushed all objections and cut short interpellations and the debates of the opposers. The purpose-driven, Palace-allied majority approved HR 1109 by acclamation.

RP's UN worker dies in Pakistan suicide blast

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN—A FILIPINO woman working for a UN agency and 10 other people were killed last Tuesday in a bold suicide bombing of a luxury hotel in northwestern Pakistan.

At least 70 people were also wounded in what the United Nations has condemned as a "heinous terrorist attack" on Peshawar Pearl Continental, a favorite spot for foreigners

RP'S UN WORKER, A8

WHO may declare 1st flu pandemic in 41 years

GENEVA—THE WORLD HEALTH ORganization (WHO) on Tuesday said a spike in Influenza A(H1N1) cases in Australia may push the agency to finally declare the first flu pandemic in 41 years.

At the same time, the WHO also expressed concern about an unusual rise in severe illness from swine flu in Canada.

In his weekly update on the new virus, WHO's flu chief Keiji Fukuda said the agency wanted to avoid "adverse effects" if it announces a global outbreak of swine flu.

Fukuda said people might panic or governments might take inappropriate actions if the WHO declared a pandemic.

Some flu experts think the world already is in a pandemic and that the WHO has caved in to country requests that a declaration be postponed.

"On the surface of it, I think we are in phase 6," or a pandemic, said WHO Director General Margaret Chan.

Before the WHO declares a pandemic, Chan said it was important to verify reports that the virus was becoming established outside North America.

"The decision to make a phase 6 an-

WHO MAY DECLARE, A9

Second FrontPage

WEATHER FORECAST

SUERTRES

FOUR DIGIT

MEGALOTTO 6/45

P4,884,757.20

Lakas-Kampi to adopt Noli, if ...

Ermita says there's no need for VP to run as independent

VICE PRESIDENT NOLI DE CASTRO CAN EXPECT TO have the full backing of the administration's Lakas-Kampi-CMD if he decides to join the party and run for President in 2010 under its banner, Malacañang said yesterday.

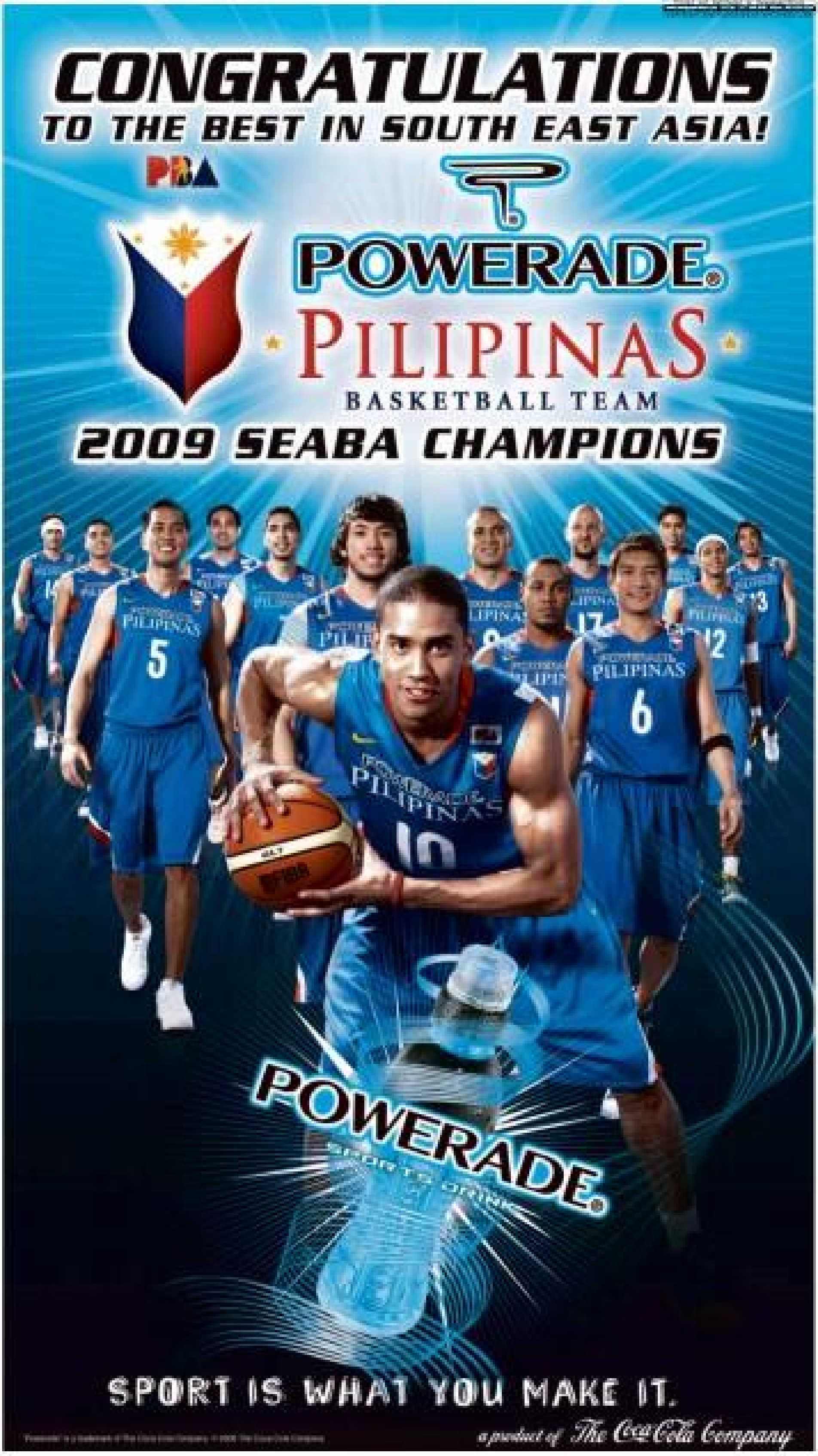


AUTOMATION AWARD

Only poll cheats oppose automation, says bid winner



Solon, 5 others charged in slay try on Sulu gov



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE BEST IN SOUTH EAST ASIA!
PBA
POWERADE
PILIPINAS
BASKETBALL TEAM
2009 SEABA CHAMPIONS
POWERADE
SPORT IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT.
a product of The Coca-Cola Company

INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETING

Obama writes, but letter's unsigned

By TJ Burgonio

Gonzalez won't let go of Dacer-Corbito case

By Norman Bordadora

Pet case

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION BY THE ON-GRID ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE RULES FOR SETTING THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES' WHEELING RATES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

Republic of the Philippines
ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
San Miguel Avenue, Pasig City

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION BY THE ON-GRID ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE RULES FOR SETTING THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES' WHEELING RATES

ORDER

SO ORDERED.

FOR AND BY AUTHORITY OF THE COMMISSION



BEST DIRECTOR IN MALACAÑANG

GMA's next stops are Japan, Brazil

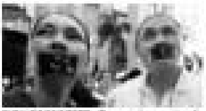
5 hunted for slay attempt on ex-gov

The Daily Gospel

Thursday, June 11, 2009



FIGHTING FORM



SIGN OF PROTEST



LINKING ARMS



THE STEADFAST CRITICS



Shameless abuse of power, says Cory of Con-ass



Stealing presidency for 3rd time

Opening salvo

Fair warning

Different displays of discontent

Exit options

Soldiers are watching

Protest leader killed in Dumaguete; peaceful rallies nationwide



THE ROAD TO MAKATI

'Better word for shameless'

Lagdameo in black

Bacolod church bells toll

Police checkpoints

Southern Tagalog

Bicol region

Tacloban City

Davao concert

GenSan

CARP gets new 5-year lease soon

Jailed Pinay in Kuwait released

MP takes up cudgels for RP fishers in UK

Filipino-Chinese traders back Charter change

Catholic schools urged to form 'circles of discernment' on Con-ass

IMF outlook: 1% decline

Weak consumption

Interest rates

Decline in remittances

Recession

Exports plunge

Overnight borrowing rate

NPC, LP, NP threaten to bolt House coalition



FAMILIAR FACES

Politically costly

To convene is dangerous

Spare the military

Cause for political unrest

GMA picks Ermita to head Lakas-Kampi

'A whisper away'

Speaker of JDV's house, Gina seeks his House seat

District classes

On Estrada's list

DOH warns vs overreaction to swine flu

By Christian V. Esguerra and Dona Z. Pazzibugan

Stay home

Aggressive warnings

Cluster of schools

Mild cases

Stigma

Twenty-three new cases

WHO may declare 1st flu pandemic in 41 years

73 countries affected

'Moderate' so far

Developing countries vulnerable

Unicef mourns death of Filipino staffer

By Cynthia D. Balana

RP's UN worker dies in Pakistan suicide blast

3 suicide bombers

Security camera

Plans to build consulate

Aid workers

INQUIRER

OPINION

Consigliere

EDITORIAL

[illegible]

Something is not right.



'Right names'

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

[illegible]

True measure

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

[illegible]

Best proof of 2010 elections

Political Tidbits



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Extraordinary

Young Blood

Bones Enriquez

In death Saro-Wiwa triumphs, Shell pays

Human Face



Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

The plebiscite scorecard

The Long View



Manuel L. Quezon III

Notice to Youngblood contributors:

Checking out the AFP: how good are its words?

LETTERS



Opposition leaders are expected to show sincerity

HR 1109 is Lakas Kampi's illegitimate first-born

Pollution issues vs alcohol plant have no factual, scientific basis

Cavite exhibit honorarium clarified

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

A rebirth of Bicol literature



Cover of Victor Dennis T. Nierva's book titled "Antipaypon."

Writers' interest and access to publishing houses are growing

Kids learn to learn without fear

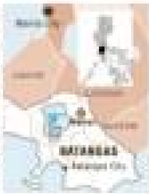


Across the NATION

Batangas town police chief shot dead

BATANGAS CITY—THE CHIEF OF POLICE OF Malvar town in Batangas was shot dead by two unidentified men in Barangay Sambat, Tanauan City at around 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

[illegible]



Higher alert level sought for rise in dengue cases



[illegible]

COA orders return of ₱21M in bonuses

[illegible]

GenSan dads want coal plant stopped

[illegible]

SPORTS



Pacquiao New York trip still possible

Powerade-RP rules Seaba

Wrong number

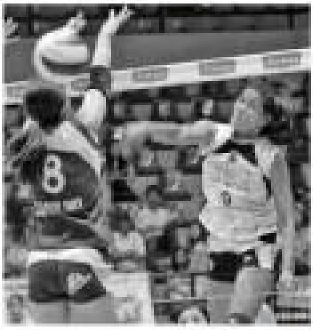
Finalists

No choice but for PBA to revive Aquino case

BARE EYE



Recah Trinidad



SHAKEY'S V-LEAGUE

Tigresses, Lady Stags kick off finals battle

Lipa back in UAAP





Cybergate tops Partners

[illegible]

The making of a champion

HEART, SOUL, SPORTS



Tommy Manotoc

[illegible]

Mikee not keen on cycling

IN HUDDLE



Beth Celis

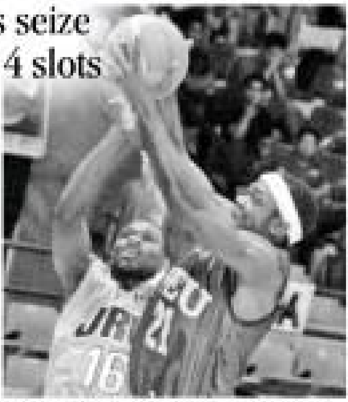
There's a spark of Magic in Orlando's eyes



UAE bowler grabs RP Int'l all-events lead

By Marc Anthony Reyes

Tams, Stags seize FilOil Final 4 slots



Guam nine surprises Cavite softbelles

Valenzona new PSC consultant

By Marc Anthony Reyes





GREENBELT MADISON
Raise your lifestyle
to the NTH POWER.
MAKATI CBD
FULLY FURNISHED UNITS
₱12,000
MEGAWORLD CORPORATION

A plus

METRO

Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday

New EPD chief out after barely a week

By Tarra Quismundo and DJ Yap

SHE HAD JUST SETTLED INTO HER NEW OFFICE when she was asked to move out and return to the national police headquarters.

Just five days after she was named chief of the Eastern Police District (EPD), Chief Supt. Lina Sarmiento—the country's second woman general and the first policewoman to hold a command post in the National Capital Region Police Office—was recalled by the Philippine National Police (PNP) leadership which gave her a new assignment.

Ironically, Sarmiento took over the post vacated by her predecessor, Chief Supt. Lino Calingasan, who was reinstated as EPD chief.

She was appointed head of the Police Security Protection Group (PSPG), a special unit tasked to provide security to dignitaries, VIPs, politicians and private citizens under threat.

Before being named EPD director on June 4, Sarmiento headed the PNP Human Rights Office and also served as director for community relations.

The PNP meanwhile brushed aside speculation that politicking within the police hierarchy had led to her relief.

"[Chief Supt.] Calingasan has to remain with the EPD to maintain the present supervisory mechanism he has instituted in relation to civil disturbance, crowd control and security and antiterrorism programs," said PNP spokesperson Senior Supt. Leonardo Espina.

The EPD has jurisdiction over Pasig, Marikina, San Juan and Mandaluyong where the People Power Monument and Edsa Shrine are located—areas where protesters usually gather.

"We decided to maintain status quo [in the EPD] because of the impending rallies. ... Just so there will be continuity," added Espina.

Contacted for comment about her new assignment yesterday, Sarmiento told the Inquirer: "There's no problem ... I'm happy where I am."

She added, "I'm still alive. I'm still here. I will just move forward. I don't look at the negative side [of things]."

On the other hand, Calin-

EPD CHIEF/A20

Gonzalez sacrificed for political expediency



ON TARGET
Ramon Tulfo

THREE WEEKS AGO, A FEMALE police applicant was raped inside the quarters of the police chief of Region 12 in General Santos City.

The chief's official residence is inside Camp Fermin G. Lira Jr. in the city.

Two policemen, PO1 Paul Unlad and PO1 John Hendrix Ripdos, close-in security aides of Chief Supt. Fidel Cimatu, were charged with rape and acts of lasciviousness.

The complainant, a 22-year-old woman from North Cotabato, has since dropped the complaints after one of the suspects proposed marriage to her.

But many people in General Santos believe Cimatu was involved in the rape but that he was excluded from the charge sheet by the city prosecutor, Edilberto Jamora.

Jamora's decision to file two separate charges against Unlad and Ripdos is highly suspicious since he could just have filed a rape complaint against the two for conspiring with each other.

Instead, the city prosecutor filed a rape complaint against Unlad and a case for acts of lasciviousness against Ripdos.

The complainant said Ripdos recorded the rape on a video camera in his cellphone.

The possible involvement of Cimatu in the gang rape was exposed by some policemen in Camp Lira who refused to be quoted.

The Philippine National Police high command in Camp Crame is trying to hush up the case since it is the first time a rape was committed inside the official residence of a police regional director. There is also the rumor of his possible involvement.

Cimatu has been sacked from his post and replaced by Chief Supt. Anselmo Cataluna.

But when of Cimatu's possible involvement in the heinous crime, will it be written off just like that with his relief?

* * *

Raul Gonzalez, who has been replaced as justice secretary and appointed presidential legal adviser, feels bitter about his new appointment, according to sources close to him.

Gonzalez's relief comes at a time when he was in the thick of preparations for the prosecution of Sen. Panfilo Lacson in the Dacer-Corbito murders.

Gonzalez has been instrumental in bringing in former Supt. Cezar Mancao from the US.

Mancao has agreed to testify against Lacson, his former boss.

My sources at the Department of Justice say the erstwhile rabid defender of President Gloria was relieved for two reasons:

First, he didn't give in to pressure from powerful individuals that popular broadcaster Ted Failon be charged with killing his wife.

Second, a possible compromise between Lacson and Malacañang for the government to go easy in prosecuting the senator in the double murders.

Gonzalez, my sources said, had been asked by Malacañang to shut up on the revival of the double murder case against Lacson, but he didn't.

Poor Gonzalez! After defending the President on difficult issues, he gets sacrificed to the altar of political expediency.

31 police officers axed for absence in court hearings

By Tara Quismundo

A TOTAL OF 31 POLICE OFFICERS were dismissed while 33 others are facing criminal charges for not attending court hearings, leading to the dismissal of several drug cases, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said yesterday.

A report from the PNP Anti-Illegal Drugs Special Operations Task Force (AIDSOTF) said the officers were fired for failing to appear as witnesses in drug cases. As a result, their absence weakened the case against drug suspects.

Police officers are usually summoned to court to testify as prosecution witnesses.

The 31 officers were dismissed after they underwent summary dismissal proceedings from May 18 to June 5.

On the other hand, 33 other police officers are facing criminal charges for the same offense. Failing to appear in court hearings is considered a violation of Section 91 of the 2002 drug law, AIDSOTF said.

Meanwhile, 11 other police officers were suspended, 12 were demoted while another 20 were acquitted after "presenting justifiable reasons [for their absence] during the investigation."

"This is in strict compliance with the directive of the President who herself noticed the alarming number of dismissed drug cases in court due to the repeated absence of law enforcement personnel," AIDSOTF said.



A CHILD of a street sweeper sleeps on a pavement near a railroad track in Manila Wednesday. The families of the street sweepers join them in the city to work odd jobs like selling candies and cigarettes to supplement their household incomes.

Cop on a bike with GF shot dead

By Nino Catherine Calleja

A 29-YEAR-OLD POLICEMAN of the Manila Police District was shot dead by still unidentified men in Paranaque City yesterday, police said.

PO1 Jayvee Edgar Cruz and his girlfriend, Ms. Christine Ballingnan, were riding on his motorcycle when they stopped in front of a bank on Dr. A. Santos Avenue in Paranaque before at around 12:45 a.m.

SPO2 Alberto Beroña said in his report that the policeman was approached by a man who shot him in the bream and right knee.

The gunman then fled on a motorcycle which already had two other men on board.

Cruz, who was assigned at the MPD's precinct 1, was declared dead on arrival at the Ninoncito V. Bernabe Sr. Memorial Hospital. His body was later taken to a funeral home for autopsy.

Recovered from the crime scene were a 9 mm cal. pistol and three shells.

The Paranaque police said they were still trying to determine the motive for Cruz's killing.

1-year-old boy drowns in a pail full of water

By Tina G. Santos

A ONE-YEAR-OLD BOY DIED after he reportedly drowned in a pail of water on Tuesday afternoon.

Baby Tarrayo Cabral, of Herbosa Street, Tondo, was found with his head submerged in a pail full of water inside the toilet of his grandparents' house on F. Varona Street, Tondo, Manila.

The victim was already dead when he was found at around 3:30 p.m., according to investigators of the Manila Police District's homicide section.

Police said that before he drowned, the victim was in another room, watching television with his mother, Rose, and elder brother Marc. At that time, his father was at work.

They added that the boy later left the room. Apparently, nobody noticed his departure because his mother had fallen asleep while his brother was busy watching TV.

Police said the victim went to the toilet and probably fell into the pail headfirst after he tried to retrieve a marble ball that had fallen into the water.

DID YOU KNOW

In NOVEMBER 1896, Andres Bonifacio commissioned Julio Nakpil to compose an anthem for the revolutionary government. Nakpil came up with "Marangal na Dalit ng Katagalugan" in Balara. He later expanded the piece and gave it the title "Salve Patria." It was first performed on the 4th death anniversary of Jose Rizal in Manila's Teatro Zorilla.

Cyril L. Bonabente, Inquirer Research

Taguig postmen eye new tack to deliver mail faster

POSTMEN IN TAGUIG CITY will try a new way to get snail mail faster to their recipients.

The planned solution: Deliver the letters on board electric tricycles or "e-trikes."

"Taguig residents will be seeing postmen riding e-trikes in the coming days to deliver 's-mails,' making mail delivery fast, convenient and environment-friendly," Taguig Councilor Rebecca Castano Tinga said.

Four e-trikes, each costing P149,000, were turned over last week to the Western Bicutan post office during the launch of commemorative stamps produced by the city government.

Tinga said postal employees were the ones who decided to dub snail mails "s-mails" since these would be delivered by postmen on e-trikes.

"It is somehow true because we're trying to deliver government services as fast as we're delivering e-mail," she added.

Tinga said sending letters through the post was still prevalent among older people in Taguig, prompting the city government to look for ways to improve postal delivery service.

Nino Christine Calleja

EPD chief out after a week

From page A1

game, in an interview, said he accepted the "wisdom" of the higher headquarters. "This probably means I will have something left to do in the EPD," he said.

Sarmiento said she received the order for her new assignment on Tuesday, right after she completed her move into her office at the EPD headquarters in Pasig City.

She added that she had to pack up her things again and move them to her new office in Camp Crame.

Sarmiento was appointed chief superintendent in March, the second woman police official to make star rank after Chief Supt. Yolanda Tanigue, the head of the PNP Women and Children Protection Center.

Maid arrested for kidnapping

MANILA POLICEMEN YESTERDAY arrested a "housemaid" who allegedly kidnapped her 1-year-old ward.

Leah Quiñones, 30, was arrested in an entrapment operation in Quiapo, Manila.

Police said the maid texted her employer, Louise Corales, an accountant, at around 3:30 p.m. yesterday to say she took her son, John Lawrence. She demanded P6,000 for the boy's release.

Corales sought the help of authorities who immediately formed a team for an entrapment operation. Tina G. Santos

METROBRIEFS

Traders sue woman

A WOMAN who had identified herself as an employee of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) was charged with estafa yesterday after she allegedly swindled two traders of P330,000. Supt. Gerardo Pabalo, chief of the Quezon City Police District's Criminal Investigation and Detection Unit (QCPD-CIDU), identified the respondent as Marvilla "Mavic" Araga, a resident of Taguig City. Pabalo said Dennis Daniel Linsam and Marilu Cruz filed a complaint with the QCPD-CIDU after they failed to find Araga at the LTFRB office in Quezon City. The police, however, said they were still trying to find out if the respondent is really an employee of the government agency. Based on their complaint, the traders said Araga promised to help them get their franchise application approved for a fee. From 2006 to 2009, the victims said they gave Araga P330,000 as payment. "They last met with her last month and now, they can't locate her," Pabalo said. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

Shape up, cops told

"SHAPE up or ship out," Pasay City Mayor Peewee Trinidad warned Pasay policemen yesterday following reports about a rise in petty crimes in the Pasay Rotunda area. Trinidad said he has been receiving complaints from residents and barangay officials that incidents of robbery and theft have become rampant due to the lack of policemen patrolling the area. Instead, village authorities were the ones responding to calls for help, he added. Trinidad said he has ordered the police chief to monitor the precinct commanders who should be deploying their men to crime-prone areas. *Nino Catherine Calleja*



BARTENDING GRADUATES
Mandaluyong City Mayor Benhur Abalos and Vice Mayor Boyet Sta. Maria (left) take a sip of coffee prepared by graduates of a bartending course during ceremonies held recently at the city's New Executive Building. The graduates finished a six-month training course for free at the Rizal Technological University.

American journalists unlikely to do hard labor in N. Korea

'Idol' runner-up admits he's gay



DDB Group Joins the Global Huddle













The WORLD

28 killed in Iraq market bombing

NASIRIYAH—A CAR BOMB EXPLODED IN A market in a southern Iraqi town on Wednesday, killing 28 people including women and children in the bloodiest attack to hit the country in weeks.

Airlines replace speed sensors after fatal crash

WorldBriefs

Germany bars Thaksin

Sri Lanka deports Canadian solon

Two-state solution pressed

Gabon names interim leader

IN THIS ISSUE

BUSINESS

IN THIS ISSUE

Exports plunged 35.2% in April

Decline in first 4 months at 36.4%

By Ronnel W. Domingo

EXPORT EARNINGS FELL HARDer in April by 35.2 percent, with shipments amounting to $2.9 billion compared with $4.33 billion in the same month last year.

This was the seventh straight month of decline and showed a worse performance than the previous month's 30.9 percent contraction.

Economic Planning Secretary Ralph G. Recto said merchandise exports continued to fare unfavorably when compared to the previous year as the global economic slowdown continued to adversely affect the country's trade performance.

Recto said that April exports were comparable to that of Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand whose exports also registered declines from March figures by 26.3 percent, 28 percent and 35.3 percent, respectively.

A decrease was also posted on a month-on-month basis as the National Statistics Office said in its latest report on exports that the value went down 3.6 percent.

This also showed worse figures after a 15.90-percent monthly increase in March, which ended a negative run in the previous five months.

In the first four months of 2009, cumulative earnings declined 36.4 percent to $10.73 billion from $16.87 billion last year.

In April alone, electronics—which accounted for 58.1 percent of total outbound cargoes—fell 33.2 percent year-on-year to $1.69 billion mainly due to the decrease in shipments of components and devices.

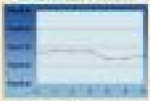
Compared to March receipts, electronics improved by 5.0 percent.

"The (month-on-month) increase in ex-

EXPORTS, B4

Indicators

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

47.34

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Stocks close higher

SHARE PRICES CLOSED 1.3 PERCENT HIGHer yesterday as bargain-hunting took hold after two days of profit-taking, dealers said.

The composite index rose 41.40 points to 2,530.75, while the all-shares index gained 1.2 percent to 1,617.68.

There were 56 gainers, 29 losers and 46 unchanged.

Volume totaled 1.33 billion shares worth P3.64 billion.

The local currency traded at 47.34 to the dollar yesterday morning from 47.36 at the close of trade the previous day.

"Eventually profit-taking ended and in-

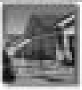
STOCKS, B4

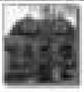
13 companies eye coal mining contracts

18 prospects nationwide

Investor's entry in Nihao delayed







Airline sector counts on domestic travel

By Riza T. Olchondra

WITH DOMESTIC PASSENGER numbers up by double digits in the first quarter of 2009, the country's airline industry counts on local travelers for growth amid a gloomy international travel market.

First-quarter data from the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) show that international passenger volume fell by 3 percent but domestic volume surged by 22 percent from last year.

International travelers numbered 2.4 million from 2.5 million last year. In contrast, domestic travelers outnumbered overseas travelers at 3.4 million, up from 2.8 million last year.

CAB Deputy Director Porvenir Porciuncula said the decline in international travel was not surprising given the global economic downturn. The improvement in local travel was a welcome respite, he said.

"It shows that efforts of the government and the industry to open new routes and make services more accessible to Filipinos are paying off," he said.

"Local airlines can focus on getting more local customers with affordable ticket prices and more choices in terms of flights," he said.

Zest Airways president and CEO Alfredo Yao agreed that the domestic travel market would be key to the continued growth of the industry and of his company in particular.

"We are, of course, looking at international expansion but domestic travel is really holding our business right now," he said.

Zest president and CEO Arsenio Esguerra expressed optimism that local travelers could pull up the local airline industry to a double-digit growth this year.

Budget carrier Cebu Pacific also expects growth.

It is increasing its female flight crew by more than half as it added more than 100 flights this year. This is in sharp contrast with the downsizing strategy adopted by most companies to cope with the financial crisis.

The budget carrier seeks 200 additional flight attendants to add to the current 328.

Cebu Pacific has a fleet of 19 A319 and 11 A320 Airbus aircraft and eight turbo-prop ATR 72 aircraft. It expects to take delivery of two more A320 aircraft this year for more scheduled routes.

These should help the airline fly 8 million passengers this year, up from 6.7 million in 2008.

In the first quarter, Cebu Pacific's domestic passenger base grew to 1.95 million from 1.5 million a year ago. Its international passenger traffic reached 379,245, from last year's 338,246.

Flag carrier Philippine Airlines, meanwhile, is using the Filipinos' attachment to the mobile phone to touch base with customers.

Beginning May 15, PAL has made available flight schedules, promo fares, advisories, products and services, including mileage points to users of mobile handsets that support WAP (wireless access protocol).

The information can be accessed through the WAP site philippineairlines.mobi.

End of monetary easing cycle seen

By Doris C. Dumlao

BRITISH BANKING GIANT HSBC sees the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas slashing key interest rates by another 50 basis points for the rest of this year.

It, however, points out that fiscal rather than monetary support is much more critical now to support the economy.

In a briefing yesterday, HSBC Philippines treasurer and head of capital markets Wick Veloso said ample liquidity in the financial system and sustained remittances from overseas Filipinos were giving the domestic economy some buffer. This, he said, gave the government leeway to speed up spending on priority infrastructure projects.

"Whatever happens globally, this will buy us time," Veloso said.

He said there was only so much the central bank could do to make an impact on pump-priming until the economy reached its full capacity to absorb the money being released into the financial system. At its current overnight borrowing rate of 4.25 percent, Veloso said the BSP might implement another 50-basis points cut this year.

"The Philippines is resilient but our hope as market participants is that fiscal spending will be realized," he said.

He sees the central bank—which has slashed its key rates by 175 basis points since December 2008—nearing the end of its monetary easing cycle.

"No matter how thirsty you are, if I give you a drum of water, you can't drink everything," he said.

"So even if you bring down interest rates to 1 percent, it will not improve lending because you have saturated market capacity. What you really need is a catalyst for people to spend, which is creation of jobs," he said.

As such, he said the BSP may stop cutting its benchmark overnight rate at 3.75 percent, at the most. Veloso added he personally believed that a further reduction by a quarter percentage point to 4 percent may even be enough as long as this would be complemented by a full-blast government spending.

"There must be spending on infrastructure and not just in Metro Manila," he said.

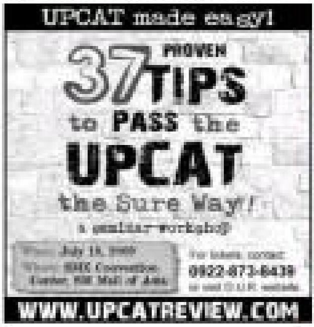
But while the government has more room for deficit spending, Veloso said it might not be prudent to let the deficit balloon to P300 billion or 4-5 percent of GDP.

He said the government would also have to manage the expectation of the rating agencies because local assets would otherwise be prone to speculative attacks.

An increase in the budget deficit to P250 billion, from the current ceiling of P199.2 billion (2.5 percent of GDP) will still be manageable, he said.

Veloso said a government deficit equivalent to 5 percent of GDP would already be seen by investors as a "warning sign."





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region VIII
DIVISION OF SAMAR
Catbalogan

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
CY 2009

[illegible]



Supreme Court of the Philippines
Judicial and Bar Council
Manila

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) announces that the following are candidates for the Legal Education Board (LEB): (1) **REPRESENTATIVE, PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF LAW SCHOOLS**: **ABAD**, ANTONIO JR. H.; **ALDAY**, ALOYSIUS C.; **BELLO**, ELOY JR. R. (2) **REPRESENTATIVE, INTEGRATED BAR OF THE PHILIPPINES**: **ALDAY**, ALOYSIUS C.; **BELLO**, ELOY JR. R.; **CUEVA**, EULOGIA M.; **MONTEJO**, ROSALINA L.

Conformably with Section 1, Rule 7 of the JBC Rules (JBC-009), as amended, the JBC will conduct a panel interview at the Division Hearing Room, Ground Floor, New Supreme Court Building, of the said candidates, as well as the candidates for LEB Chairperson and Regular Members representing the Philippine Association of Law Professors, Active Law Practitioners, and Law Students' Sector, whose names were published in the 19 March 2009 issue of this newspaper:

30 JUNE 2009 (Tuesday)

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

1. **AQUINO**, HILARION L.
2. **BELLO**, ELOY JR. R.
3. **DE CASTRO**, SOLEDAD C.

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1. **PARDO**, BERNARDO P.
2. **ABAD**, ANTONIO JR. H.
3. **ALDAY**, ALOYSIUS C.

01 JULY 2009 (Wednesday)

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

1. **CUEVA**, EULOGIA M.
2. **FLORES**, VENICIO S.
3. **LAZO**, PERIGRINO JR. R.
4. **MONTEJO**, ROSALINA L.

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1. **BADAC**, RICARDO L.
2. **CABREROS**, MARC TITUS D.
3. **MACALINO**, JOEL V.
4. **SAQUING**, SHERWIN JERRY PAUL V.

The JBC also announces that the following are applicants for different judgeship positions:

REGIONAL TRIAL COURT (RTC), (REGION VII) MANDAUE CITY, CEBU (Br.56): **BASTASA**, Ric S.; **BIEN**, Fred A.; **ENRIQUEZ**, Kit S.; **GALANIDA**, Teresita A.; **GESTOPA**, Gerardo Jr. E.; **GO**, Glenda C.; **HIMALALOAN**, James Stewart E.; **MARQUEZ**, Gregorio V.; **NAVARRO**, Wilfredo F.; **ONG**, Manuel F.; **OTADOY**, Eusebio Jr. L.; **PANSOY**, Federico V.; **QUINIT**, Mario O.; **SALES**, Rotiza P.; **SANCHEZ**, Aldo A. **OSLOB, CEBU (Br.62)**: **BARRIOS**, Ricardo Jr. G.; **DE LOS SANTOS**, Thelma M.; **ENRIQUEZ**, Kit S.; **HIMALALOAN**, James Stewart E.; **NAVARRO**, Wilfredo F.; **QUINTANO**, Ireneo M.; **SINGCO**, Jinefer B.;

METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT (METC), MARIKINA CITY (Br.75): **BALAGAT**, Asteria A.; **BALMEO**, Jose Jr. M.; **BAYLON**, Ferdinand C.; **BAYSA**, Andrew N.; **BRUNO**, Ruby R.; **BUENALUZ**, Hector Jr. D.; **CABBLES**, Bernardino L.; **CALINA**, Osayn P.; **CALLANTA**, Juris O.; **DE RAMOS**, Maria Angelica P.; **DEL ROSARIO**, Joan P.; **DEL ROSARIO**, Rodrigo **LOYSANGCO** Alvin S.; **ESGUERRA**, Carolina DJ.; **ESPIRITU**, Rio T.; **FALCIS**, Rodiger II G.; **FLOR**, Paul A.; **GAPUZAN**, Nestor V.; **JAVIER**, Peter John U.; **JURADO**, Alessandro D.; **LAGMAN**, Jorell D.; **LLAMASARES**, Lye L.; **MESA**, Phoebe C.; **MENDOZA**, Ma. Vilma E.; **MIGUEL**, J. Ernie Ernest R.; **NABAZA**, Suzanne C.; **PAGDILAO**, Elizabeth F.; **PEIG**, Nancy G.; **REGINO**, Precious T.; **SAMAR**, Janet A.; **SORIANO**, Leonard Jacinto A.; **SUBONG**, Gregorio Jr. P.; **TAGABAN**, Arleen T.; **TELERON**, Andrea G.; **TEYLAN**, Nancy V.; **TORRIJOS**, Ronald Q.; **TRIMOR**, Pastor Jr. J.; **VALDEZ**, Hazel D.; **VEDAN**, Joel B.;

MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT (MTC) (REGION IX) BUUG, ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY: **BAEL**, Josefino P.; **BANCE**, Ruben N.; **EDRALIN**, Geraldine A.; **GONZAGA**, Victoriano R.; **MIJARES**, Sarah Lara R.; **SABIJON**, Glenn C.;

MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURT (MCTC) (REGION I) STA. CRUZ-STA. LUCIA, ILOCOS SUR: **RODRIGUERA**, Nida Q.

The public may submit sworn complaint, written report, or opposition against any of the aforesaid applicants **not later than 22 JUNE 2009 (Monday)** to the JBC Secretariat 3rd Flr., Centennial Bldg., Supreme Court, Padre Faura St., Manila (Tel.552-9512; Fax no. 5529607; e-mail address jbc_supremecourt@yahoo.com.ph or jbc@sc.judiciary.gov.ph).

All applicants for judicial positions must submit to the JBC ASAP via fax, mail or email their updated JBC Form 1 (Revised September 2007); proof of Filipino citizenship; and 2009 Ombudsman, NBI and Police Clearances, as well as the other requirements before the date scheduled for their interview. **Those who fail to submit the necessary requirements shall neither be interviewed nor considered for nomination.**

10 June 2009

MA. LUISA D. VILLARAMA
Clerk of Court & JBC
Ex Officio Secretary

NGCP to spend ₱10B for projects this year

By Amy R. Remo

Lodestar to develop Surigao coal mine

By Daxim L. Lucas

Review to a kill

BREAKTIME



Conrado R. Banal III

Stocks close higher

From page B1

Exports plunged 35.2% in April

From page B1

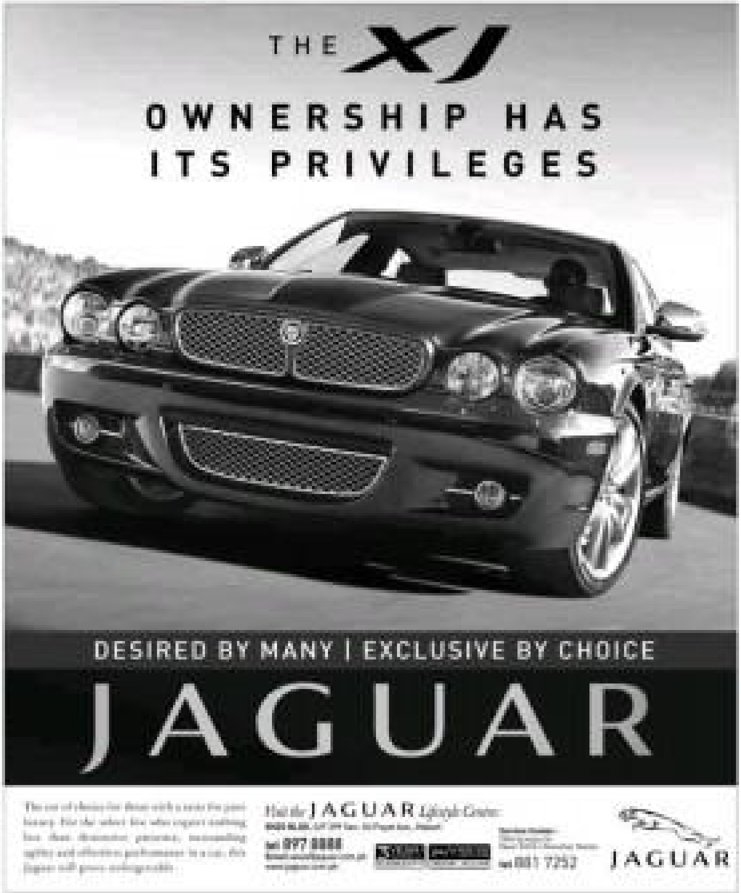
GlobalSource, UBS cut RP growth target

GDP seen expanding by only 0.5-1% in '09

Buy local drive gains steam

Transformer repairs done





BUSINESS

Fiat closing in on Chrysler deal, shares rise

US high court clears last obstacle to closing major deal



Asian stocks rise; oil prices hit 2009 high

Japan expects slow recovery

IN THIS ISSUE
■ Eat your 'Noli,' and please chew your 'Fili' properly /D1

LIFESTYLE Food
Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan





Best markets? Chefs let us in on their secrets

Where the city's top cooks source their ingredients

By [illegible]

HAVE YOU EVER WONdered where top chefs buy ingredients to create fabulous dishes? Where do they source their mussels for bouillabaisse and live shrimps for jumping salad?

[illegible]

David Pardo de Ayala, corporate chef of Discovery Group of Hotels

[illegible]

Carlo Miguel, Sala Bistro

[illegible]

Roland Laudico, Bistro Filipino

[illegible]

BEST MARKETS/C2



CHEFS buy fresh seafood from Farmers Market in Cubao, Quezon City.



Best markets? Chefs let us in on their secrets

[illegible]

Glenda Barretto, Via Mare

[illegible]

Ed Quimson, Pepe and Pilar; 21, Delimondo

[illegible]



FRESH produce from Salcedo Saturday Market

[illegible]

Tristan Encarnacion, Center for Culinary Arts, Manila, instructor

[illegible]

Katrina Kuhn Alcantara, Cuillere Restaurant

[illegible]

Jay Gamboa, Milky Way, Azu Thai, Cafe J, Cirkulo

[illegible]

Vicky Pacheco, Sentro and Chateau 1771

[illegible]



TERRY Selection for imported processed meats and wines



SANTIS Deli for imported cheese, sausages and hard-to-find herbs

Savoring 'pancit Henoy, pancit estacion' in Aguinaldo's house

COUNTRY COOKING



Micky Fenix

[illegible]

Specialties

[illegible]



A VIEW of the Aguinaldo House in Kawit, Cavite, from the garden at the back

Master food stylist Delores Custer holds seminar-demo

By Norma Chikiamco
Contributor

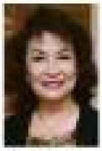
[illegible]



NORMA Abalos, Gilly Reyes and Marielyn Yambao



CHI CHI Sebo, Isabel Caro Wilson and Bambi Harper



NELLIE Bengzon



CRISELDA Lorenzo



FOUNDER of Tribung Pilipino Danny Dolor

Rustan's celebrates Visayas' rich heritage



MILLETTE Ocampo, Marilou Sereno, Ana Caza, Lulu Pascual

IN CELEBRATION OF A RICH AND colorful culture, Rustan's brought together everything Filipino with the Visayan Festival. As part of the Heritage month, the Visayan Festival aimed to highlight the products and traditions of the Philippines.

"May is heritage month...It is a month-long celebration with activities that are held to create awareness," said Bambi Harper, a member of the Heritage group. The Beauty Base of Rustan's Makati was transformed into a house of displays of homegrown products that also highlighted the intricately made and finely woven designs from Basey, Samar. Rustan Commercial Corporation's executive vice president Anton Huang said the celebration was put in... "reflective of the colorful past that is the Visayas."

To further create awareness on the origins of the banig, weavers were invited for demonstrations led by Ana Maria Adorso-Yu from Samar. Adorso Yu has successfully turned the art into a lucrative business. This exhibit highlighted the work behind the creation of each pieces that have now evolved into house décor and beautiful accessories.

Tribung Pilipino Foundation was also introduced to guests as an organization striving to protect and preserve Filipino art and culture. Founded by Danny Dolor, it was organized to propagate love for, and interest in, traditional Filipino music like the Kundiman, Harana, Balitaw and Danza, especially among the youth. Dolor was committed to remembering our country's greatest artists by acknowledging their contributions and giving them the honor that they have long deserved. And in line with the Visayan festival, the foundation's group, Tribung Pinoy, performed Visayan songs. Singers Gloria Dizon Conrad, a professor in UST and soprano; Lisa Caledog, also a soprano; and Gonzalo Ong, a tenor, were assisted by Julie Mendoza on piano. They performed Visayan folk and love songs such as "Matang Malulahon" by I. Villaflor, "Nan Dyna?," "Gen Bernoy," "Usahay," "Sa Kabukiran" and "Rosas Pandan."

To underscore the significance of Heritage Month, Rustan's held a series of workshops where guests could try original Filipino activities. It had the Lopez Banig Exhibit. At Rustan's Tower was a workshop on Filipino cuisine by chef Ellen Uy de Baron. The Basey Banig weavers from Samar were at the Lopez Banig Exhibit to demonstrate the stages of Banig weaving. There was also a workshop on flower arrangement and table setting by Nena Tiamson and Tina Quilino at the Rustan's Makati home floor.



PIETRO Jones and Rustan Commercial Corporation executive vice president Anton Huang



RUSTAN Commercial Corporation head of marketing Dina Arroyo-Tantoco and Rosan Campos



RAL ENDRIGA and Ping Valencia



TRIBUNG Pinoy singers Gloria Dizon Conrad, Gonzalo Ong and Lisa Caledog



Mall promo gives away condo unit



[illegible]

Wine experience

[illegible]

Sea festival

[illegible]

Cooking classes

[illegible]

Wedding seminars

[illegible]

New RJ center outlet

[illegible]



LIFESTYLE Food

Eat your 'Noli,' and please chew your 'Fili' properly



BAMBI Sy-Gobio

By Alya B. Honasan
Contributor

Chef Bambi Sy-Gobio's Pia y Damaso is the first Filipino restaurant to offer a fun lesson in Rizaliana literature

SHE WASN'T GOING TO settle for just any novel, either. When Bambi Sy-Gobio decided to open a Filipino restaurant in Greenbelt 5 in 2007—she had a dry run just before the Glorietta bomb explosion, and had to close for a bit after that before reopening in earnest—she wanted a Filipino restaurant with a truly original concept, based on the works of no less than Filipino national hero José Rizal.

[illegible]

Ill-matched pair

[illegible]

EAT YOUR 'NOLI' D4



Sea urchin bisque for the man in your life

MY STUDENTS ASKED where they could take their fathers and husbands for Father's Day.

KITCHEN RESCUE



Reggie Aspiras

[illegible]

SEA URCHIN D3



From spicy Nanking beef to wonton soup and 'papaitan'

RATING INDEX

Poor

Good

Excellent

THE QUIET DINER
RESTOS AT A GLANCE

The Good Earth Tea Room

Rating

Gloria Maris

Rating

Rating

Eat your 'Noli,' and please chew your 'Fili' . . .



Refreshing drink



Bambi Sy-Gobio's garlic-overload 'adobo'

Sea urchin bisque for the man in your life

Perfection



KING Crab Escabeche



CHEF Markus Gfeller

Sinful lamb



SINFUL Glazed Lamb Belly

New cooking classes

Juicy charcoal-grilled lamb ribs



DINING OUT

Hamburg steak



Linguini Sicilian style

'Adobong kabuti'

Baked 'bibingka'

'Kare-kare' crabs

Samango frost



Lamb lettuce salad

Seafood jambalaya





'Mahi-mahi' cakes



Sticky monkey split

Fish Scallopini





Buffalo chicken wings

Crazy for strawberries




independence day
sale
one day only, friday, june 12
all items on sale*
Exclusively for SM Advantage, SM Prestige & BDO Rewards Cardholders
Prestige
ADVANTAGE
ACE

LIFESTYLE Food



Eating—and cooking Thai—the way Thais do

E2

GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN



PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVESHOTS



JAMES BOND



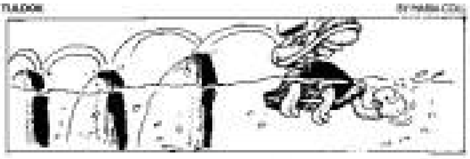
DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT



TULDOK



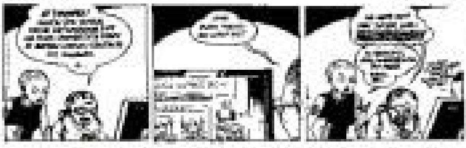
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON



ATOMO AND WEBBY



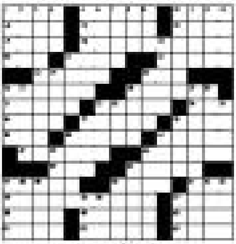
BIO MACHINE

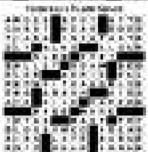


HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE





CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

		9		2			4	
6								
		7	5		6	1		2
		1				8		
9				5				3
		6				9		
2		8	1		9	5		
								6
	1			7		4		

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

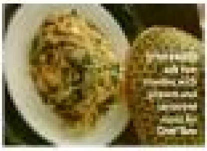
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

8	4	5	2	9	1	7	3	6
7	2	1	3	8	5	9	6	4
6	9	3	4	[illegible]	7	1	5	2
2	3	9	5	1	6	8	4	7
5	7	4	6	3	9	2	8	1
1	6	8	7	4	2	5	9	3
9	8	6	1	2	3	4	7	5
4	1	7	8	5	6	3	2	9
3	5	2	9	7	4	6	1	8

Eating—and cooking Thai—the way Thais do







From pancakes to king prawns with sauce of mashed water bugs—some trip it was

Day 2

Sky lodge

Day 3

Chiang Mai

Day 4

Day 5

Learn how to do your Phat Thai

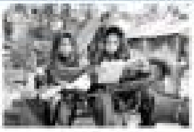
Phat Thai



NORTHERN-STYLE Minced Pork Red Curry Paste from Dock 1, Rarinjinda Wellness Spa Resort

Northern-style Minced Pork Red Curry Paste

Chiang Mai's famous Curry Noodle Soup with Chicken



THIRD place winner Allen Sabdula captured two sons of freedom fighters reading Jim Powell's "The Triumph of Liberty: A 2000-year History Told Through the Lives of Freedom's Greatest Champions."

Pinoys' love for reading showcased in photo tilt

IT'S OFFICIAL: THE PHILIPpines is still home to many, many booklovers.

[illegible]



MARK Anthony Escordo bags second place with his clever take on comic strips.



TAKING home the top prize was Carlo Zamora, whose entry impressed the judges with its raw portrayal of the joy of reading in a remote place where books are a rarity.

[illegible]

ENTERTAINMENT



Candy Pangilinan, The Forgiven

'The most painful moment' of her career is over

Kris Allen signs up



Cops need a month

Reuters

SM CINEMA

Log on to www.smcinema.com and get a chance to win
1 of 10 Sam Raimi's The Grudge DVDs and Drag Me to Hell Posters!



SM CINEMA

NOW SHOWING AT SM CINEMAS

METRO MANILA

RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE

THE PODIUM		IMAX	
DRAG ME TO HELL	TERMINATOR: SALVATION	NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2	STAR TREK
		MONSTERS VS ALIENS (3D)	SEA MONSTERS

LATE SCREENINGS

		DIRECTOR'S CLUB
TERMINATOR: SALVATION	RESERVED	TERMINATOR:SALVATION DRAG ME TO HELL

LUZON

VISAYAS - MINDANAO

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS: 395-5555

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

GALLERIA

1 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
2 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
3 BLOOD: THE LAST VAMPIRE
4 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
5 DRAG ME TO HELL
6 ANGELS & DEMONS
7 KAMOTENG KAHOY
8 IndieSine: BABY ANGELO / UPCAT
9 BFF: BEST FRIEND FOREVER
10 NIGHT at the MUSEUM 2

ERMITA

1 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
2 BLOOD: THE LAST VAMPIRE
3 KAMOTENG KAHOY
4 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
5 DRAG ME TO HELL
6 ANGELS & DEMONS
7 NIGHT at the MUSEUM 2

METRO EAST

1 ANGELS & DEMONS
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 BLOOD: THE LAST VAMPIRE
4 DRAG ME TO HELL
5 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
6 KAMOTENG KAHOY
7 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
8 NIGHT at the MUSEUM 2

NOVALICHES

1 NIGHT at the MUSEUM 2
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 BLOOD: THE LAST VAMPIRE
4 TERMINATOR: SALVATION

PIONEER

1 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 BLOOD: THE LAST VAMPIRE
4 DRAG ME TO HELL

NOW OPEN

3 STATE-OF-THE-ART CINEMAS

MOVIEWORLD TACLOBAN



STA. ROSA

1 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 DRAG ME TO HELL
4 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND

LIPA

1 DED NA SI LOLO
2 DRAG ME TO HELL
3 THEY WAIT
4 17 AGAIN

DASMARIÑAS

1 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 THEY WAIT
4 DRAG ME TO HELL

IMUS

1 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 THEY WAIT
4 DRAG ME TO HELL

STARMILLS

1 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
4 DRAG ME TO HELL
5 AMUSEMENT
6 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND

ANGELES

1 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
2 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
3 DRAG ME TO HELL
4 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND

TACLOBAN

1 SHINJUKU INCIDENT
2 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
3 DED NA SI LOLO

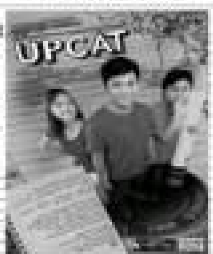
BACOLOD

1 DRAG ME TO HELL
2 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
3 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
4 ANGELS & DEMONS
5 GHOSTS of GIRLFRIENDS PAST
6 AMUSEMENT

ILOILO

1 DRAG ME TO HELL
2 TERMINATOR: SALVATION
3 NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2
4 HOUSE
5 ANGELS & DEMONS
6 THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND

FEATURED IndieSine FILM of the WEEK



MOVIEWORLD

Rockin' on Broadway, next to normal

BACKSTORY

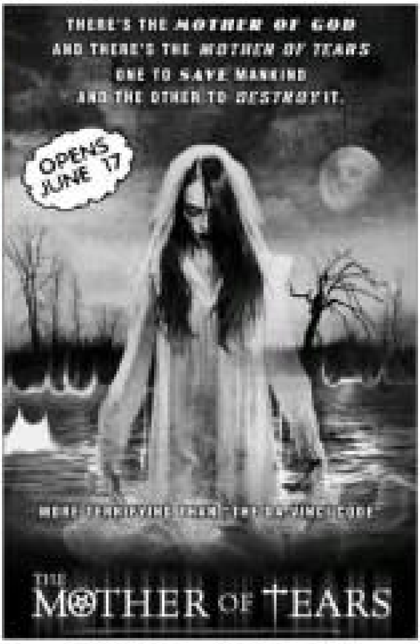
Lea Salonga

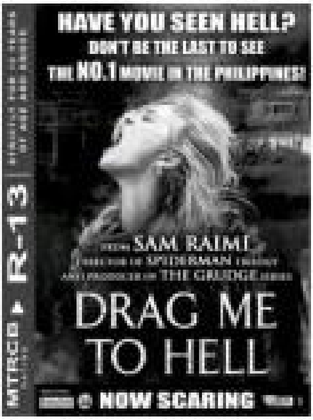


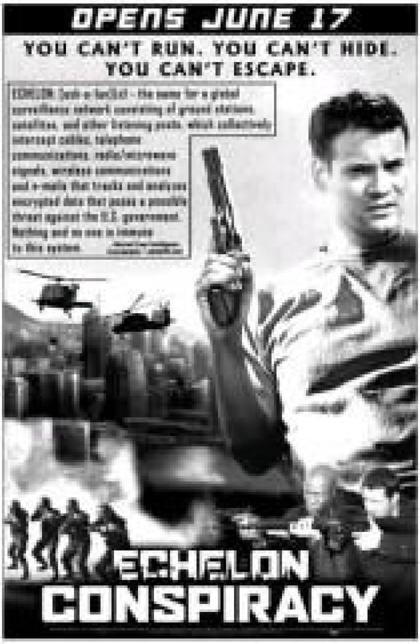
Score stealer

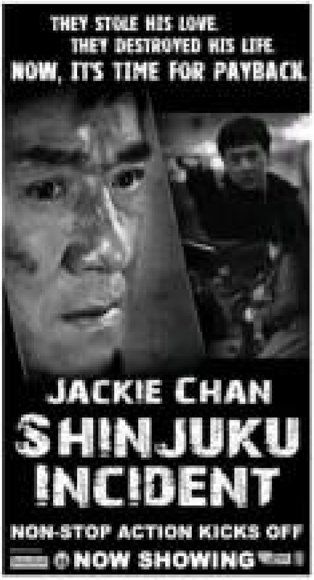
Metro Station has arrived











Susan Boyle gets more than she bargained for

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

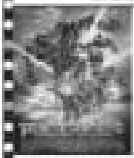


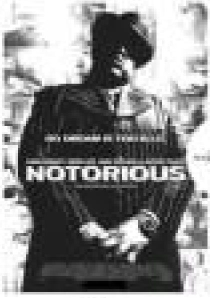
Like Paul Potts

What's up!

Of love and friendship

'Teardrop Diamond'














FELIX Roco

Bembol's son takes indie route

He plans to do stage version of dad's film, 'Maynila: Sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag'

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

YOUNG GMA 7 ACTOR FELIX Roco can very well claim he has seen the indie scene from both sides now.

In last year's Cinema One Originals entry "UPCAT," he plays a dreamy scholar; in this year's Cinemalaya film "Engkwentro," he portrays a grim gangster.

"These two movies are total opposites," he points out. "'UPCAT' is light and positive; 'Engkwentro' is heavy and dark."

Felix, last seen on the GMA 7 afternoon series "Dapo Ilaw," enjoys his detour from the mainstream to the indie scene.

(He and twin Dominic made their big screen debut in the Star Cinema comedy "Ouch Para Paraiso Mula Wari" in 2004.)

"I enjoy doing indie movies," Felix says. "As an actor, you are free to do what you want and the stories are more truthful and relevant."

Shocking

Case in point is "Engkwentro," the shoot of which left Felix in a state of shock.

"It's an eye-opener," Felix says of Pepe Diokno's digital movie about vigilantes who commit human rights violations in Southern Philippines.

He feels strongly about telling its story. "People don't pay much attention to this issue. After doing the movie, I learned more about it and realized that some of the victims were minors. This is my way of showing people what's happening."

Technically, the shoot also posed challenges. "It was very hard. We did most of the scenes in one long take. We had rehearsals that lasted for weeks. It was like doing a stage play."

He sees doing indie films is his way of building a "stronger movie industry."

He is also part of the cast of Joel Lamangan's "Dukot," a film on missing activists.

In Romeo Carlo Olivarez's "UPCAT," currently showing in Indie Sine Robinsons Galleria, Felix got the chance to act with his dad, Bembol Roco.

It was "nerve-wracking," he admits, but a "dream come true."

Bembol's son

Felix is on the verge of fulfilling yet another dream—starring in a stage remake of his dad's 1975 film, Lino Brocka's "Maynila: Sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag."

The play's producer, Noel Nuñez, says Felix is "the only young actor who can take over Bembol's role. Recently, Felix told me that he's ready to play Julio Madiaga."

Felix watched "Maynila" as a kid. "It was daring. To think, my dad was the same age as I am now (early 20s) when he did it."

He is aware that "Maynila" is the only Filipino film included in the landmark book "1001 Movies You Must See Before You Die."

"It makes me proud to see a picture of my dad alongside the world's best artists... that book has Samuel L. Jackson (in "Pulp Fiction") on the cover," he says.

Being constantly labeled "Bembol's son" can be draining, but Felix has learned to take it in stride.

"There's a lot of pressure," he admits. "People expect you'll be as good as your dad. Then again, this can also push me to create my own niche in the industry."

E-mail: bayanisandiego@hotmail.com

Candy Pangilinan...

From page F1

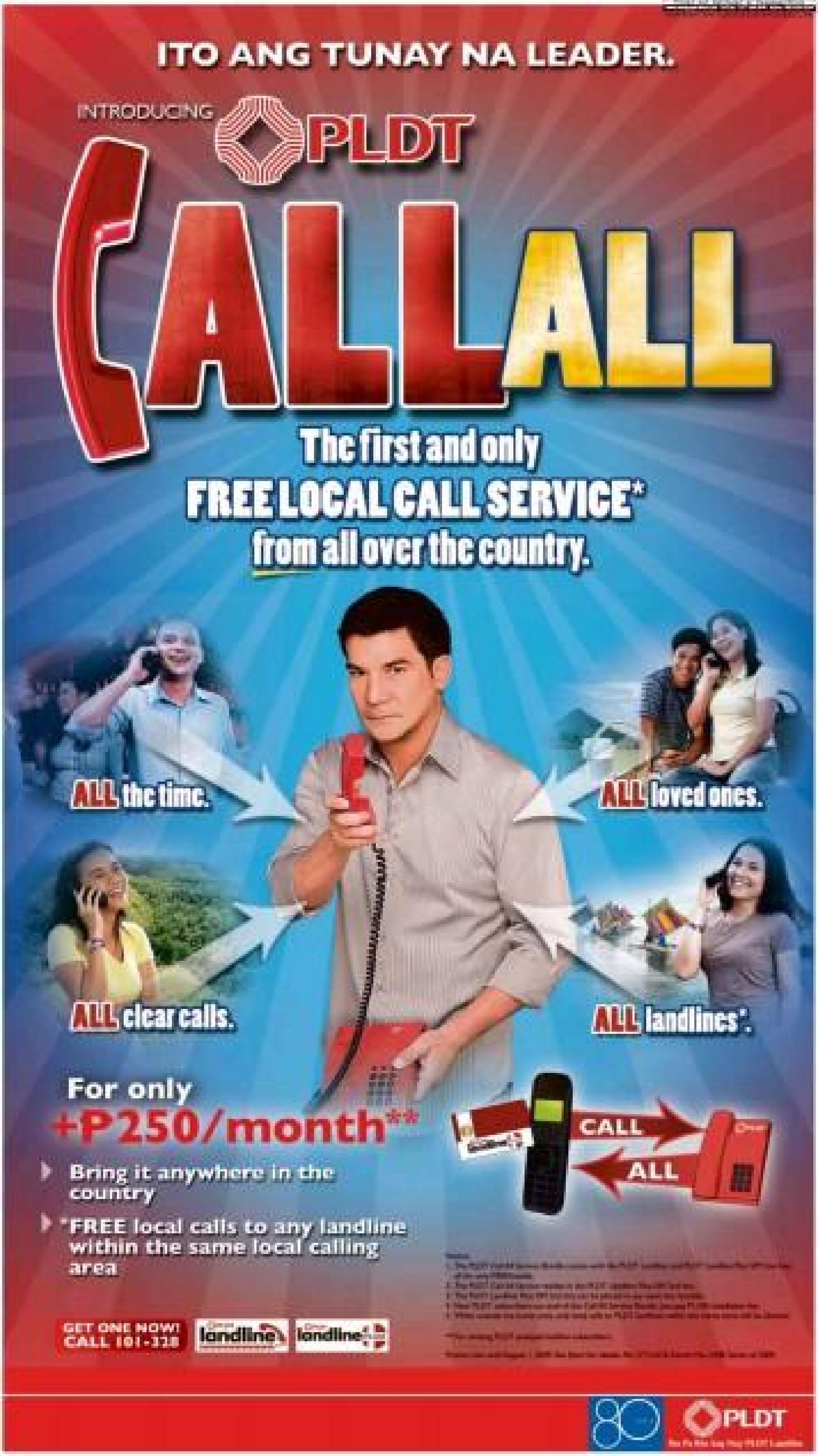
councilors agreed to forgive Pangilinan.

Councilor Fred Bagbagen, principal author of the resolution, agreed to a proposal by his colleagues for Pangilinan to undergo a cleansing ritual called "dawes" to clean the issue.

Dawes is a traditional practice, particularly of the Kankana-ey tribe, to ward off bad spirits after a crisis by slaughtering pigs or dogs.

George Dumawing, former chair of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines Baguio-Benguet Chapter, said a group of Igorot lawyers likewise agreed to withdraw the civil case they were planning to file against Pangilinan.

"I hope you will learn from us and share with the entertainment industry that it should stop portraying Igorots in a negative manner," Dumawing said.


ITO ANG TUNAY NA LEADER.
INTRODUCING PLDT
CALL ALL
The first and only
FREE LOCAL CALL SERVICE*
from all over the country.
ALL the time.
ALL loved ones.
ALL clear calls.
ALL landlines*.
For only
+P250/month**
Bring it anywhere in the country
*FREE local calls to any landline within the same local calling area
CALL
ALL
GET ONE NOW! CALL 101-328
landline
landline
PLDT